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Decision 90 02 003 FEB 07 1990

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of

LOS ANGÈLES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

For an order authorizing the construction of a pedestrian crossing at separated grade above two light vehicle tracks and above one Southern Pacific Transportation Company track and the closure of a pedestrian grade crossing, BBH-494.87D, at Caldwell Street in the City of Compton, California. Application 89-09-029 (Filed September 21, 1989)

OPINION

As part of the project to construct a light rail transit (LRT) system, the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) requests authority to construct a pedestrian crossing at separated grades over two light rail vehicle tracks and one Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Wilmington Branch Line tracks at Caldwell Street in Compton, Los Angeles County. LACTC also requests authority to close the existing at-grade pedestrian crossing, upon completion and opening of the new overhead pedestrian crossing.

The Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project is part of an on-going transit development process in which the Long Beach-Los Angeles corridor and thirteen other corridors have been identified as candidates for transit improvements. The project is being planned as a conventional LRT system from downtown Los Angeles to downtown Long Beach to serve between 54,000 and 76,000 passengers per day. A variety of impacts were identified, both beneficial and

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adverse. Mitigation measures will either eliminate or reduce the severity of the adverse impacts to acceptable levels.

LACTC is the lead agency for this project under the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, Public Resources Code Sections 21000, et seq. After preparation and review of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), LACTC approved the project. On March 29, 1985, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Secretary for Resources and with the Los Angeles County Clerk which found that "The project will have a significant impact on the environment". A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for the project.

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's EIR.

The site of the project has been inspected by the Commission's Safety Division Traffic Engineering staff. The staff examined the need for and the safety of the overhead pedestrian crossing and recommends that approval be granted.

LACTC has met the filing requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure including Rule 38, which relates to the construction of a public highway across a railroad track. Detailed drawings of the pedestrian grade separation and street geometrics are in Appendix A attached to this order.

LACTC wishes to commence construction of this portion of its LRT system at the earliest possible date. It is therefore requested that the usual 30-day effective date on an order be waived. We will make our order effective immediately.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on October 2, 1989. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary. A.89-09-029 S/RRT/dt

Findings of Fact

1. LACTC requésts authority under Public Utilitiés Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct à pédestrian crossing at separated gradés abové two light rail véhiclé tracks and one SPT's Wilmington Branch Line tracks at Caldwell Stréet in Compton, Los Angelés County. LACTC also requests authority to closé the existing atgrade pédéstrian crossing upon completion and opéning of the new overhéad pédéstrian crossing.

2. Construction of the new overhead pedestrian crossing and the closure and removal of the existing at-grade pedestrian crossing is an essential element in construction of the LRT system.

3. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require construction of the new overhead pedestrian crossing and the closure of the existing at-grade pedestrian crossing, as set forth in Appendix A attached to this order.

4. LACTC is the lead agency for this project under CEQA, as amended.

5. The Commission is a responsible agency for this project and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's EIR.

6. The Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project will have a significant impact on the environment; however, mitigation measures will either eliminate or reduce the severity of the adverse impacts to acceptable levels.

7. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for the project.

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Conclusions of Law

1. The application should be granted as set forth in the following order.

2. The usual 30-day effective date on an order should be waived as LACTC wishes to commence construction of the project at the earliest possible date.

<u>O R D E R</u>

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) is authorized to construct an overhead pedestrian crossing at separated grades over the tracks of LACTC's Long Beach-Los Angeles Line and Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Wilmington Branch Line to be identified as crossing BBH-494.87-AD (SPT) and 84L-12.65-AD (LACTC) and close and remove the existing Caldwell Street at-grade crossing identified as crossing BBH-494.87-D in Compton, Los Angeles County, at the location and substantially as shown on Appendix A attached to this order.

2. Clearances shall be in accordance with General Order (GO) 26-D and walkways shall conform to GO 118 for SPT.

3. Cléarances shall be in accordance with GO-143 for LACTC.

4. Construction and maintenance costs shall be borne in accordance with an agreement which has been entered into between the parties. A copy of the agreement has been filed with the Commission's Safety Division.

5. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, LACTC shall notify the Commission's Safety Division in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

6. This authorization will expire if not exercised within three years unless time is extended or if the above conditions are

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not complied with. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety so require.

7. The application is granted as set forth above. This order is effective today.

Dated FEB 07 1990 , at San Francisco, California.

G. MITCHELL WILK President FREDERICK R., DUDA STANLEY W. HULETT JOHN B. OHANIAN PATRICIA M. ECKERT Commissioners

I CERTTIFY THAT THIS DECISION WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE COMMISSIONERS TODAY.

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WESLEY FRANKLIN, Acting Executive Director



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